

REMINDER TO DISTRICTS THAT PLEDGED THEIR AUGUST PAYMENT

Approximately 150 school districts participated in the Michigan Municipal Bond Authority's (MMBA) State Aid Note (SAN) Program 2003B or 2004A, and pledged their August 2004 school aid payment to J.P. Morgan Chase Bank. If your district participated in one of these programs, please be reminded that your August payment will not be deposited in your bank account. Rather, your payment will be deposited with J.P. Morgan Chase Bank and any excess funds will be returned to the school by them. If you have questions contact Lois Sauers, Michigan Municipal Bond Authority (517) 373-1728 or SauersL@Michigan.gov.

AUGUST PAYMENT INFORMATION

The August state school aid payment is the 11th and final payment of the 2003-2004 year. Information and data that were received in the Office of State Aid and School Finance by July 30, 2004 are reflected in the August payment calculations.

Taxable value - The August payment continues to use the *adjusted* 2003 tax year non-homestead taxable value data, as provided by the county treasurers on the DS-4410B forms. All counties have reported their DS-4410B data. The taxable value data on the DS-4410B represents the taxable value as of the date of settlement between the local unit treasurer and the county. To view the taxable value data reported by your county treasurer(s) go to <http://taxvalue.mde.state.mi.us/taxvalue> and click on "Public Access" (see related item below).

Pupil membership - The audited February and September 2003 pupil counts submitted via the SRSD system have been used in the calculation of the August payment. For PSAs in their first or second year of operation, the February 2004 audited count data submitted via the SRSD are averaged with the audited September 2003 count.

Updated categoricals - The following categoricals were updated in the August payment although the updates may not have affected the allocation amounts for all districts. If the allocation amount for your district has changed and you have questions concerning that change, contact the consultants identified below:

C Section 32d - Michigan School Readiness - Connie Robinson, School Excellence, (517) 241-4291, RobinsonConnie@Michigan.gov

C Section 107 - Adult Education - Joellen Wonsey, State Aid and School Finance, (517) 373-3352, WonseyJ@Michigan.gov

C Section 26 - Renaissance Zone - Howard Heideman, Michigan Department of Treasury - Office of Revenue and Tax Analysis, (517) 373-9002, HeidemanH@Michigan.gov

NO MEIS SECURITY NEEDED TO ACCESS NEW ON-LINE TAXABLE VALUATION SYSTEM

A decision has been made to no longer require school district personnel or members of the public to have Michigan Education Information System (MEIS) security to access the new on-line taxable valuation data system. Contrary to what we reported in the July State School Aid UPDATE, you can now access the data without a MEIS log-in and password. Simply go to <http://taxvalue.mde.state.mi.us/taxvalue> and click on "Public Access." This allows read-only privileges to people accessing the system this way. Of course, county treasurers accessing the system to enter or change data must have MEIS security. Taxable valuation data for the 2003 (FY 2004) and prior tax rolls have been loaded into the system by the Department. County treasurers have been given until September 1, 2004 to load the 2004 tax roll (FY2005) data. Contact Susan Eppe, Office of State Aid and School Finance (517) 335-4059, or EppeS@Michigan.gov with questions.

WITHHOLDING OF SECTION 31A AT-RISK PUPILS PAYMENT

Pursuant to State School Aid Act Section 31a(7), local districts (including public school academies) that did not submit the 2003-2004 Section 31a Program Report by July 15 will have the August portion of the annual At-Risk

allocation withheld until the report is received by the Department. If the report is not received by September 30, the withheld funds will be forfeited. Please note that if the Office of State Aid and School Finance received word from the Office of School Improvement that a report was received prior to the calculation of the August payment, the funds were not withheld. Questions may be directed to Judy Thelen, Office of School Improvement, (517) 335-1266, or ThelenJA@Michigan.gov. The FY 2004 Section 31a Program Report form has been added to the Michigan Electronic Grants System (MEGS) at <http://megs.mde.state.mi.us/megs/>.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION DATABASE (FID)

The Financial Information Database (FID) system has replaced the Education data Network (EDN) as the mechanism to collect the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (Form B) from Michigan public schools. This fall, each district must submit its fiscal year 2003-2004 financial data to the state using this new system exclusively. **No other format will be accepted.** We are concerned about the number of districts that have not availed themselves of the opportunity to test this system. Consequently, the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) has made arrangements to keep the test system open through most of August to allow districts that have not attempted to submit test files an additional opportunity. You may link to the application through the CEPI website at www.michigan.gov/cepi: select MEIS Data Services, then Financial Information Database from the left navigation bar and click on the link to the application at the center of the page. Please refer back to the March and May UPDATES for additional information. If you have questions about the FID application and implementation process, you may e-mail the DIT Education Help Desk at Help-Desk@Michigan.gov or call (517) 335-0505. For answers to questions regarding the Chart of Accounts, please contact Glenda Rader at (517) 335-0524 or RaderG@Michigan.gov.

SENATE BILL 599 SIGNED INTO LAW

Senate Bill 599 was signed into law by Governor Granholm as Public Act 227 of 2004 on July 21, 2004. This law amends Section 6(6) of the State School Aid Act to allow a local school district to enroll and count in membership a pupil who is resident of another school district, without that district's approval, if the pupil is a child of a person who is employed by the enrolling district. This includes adopted children and legal wards. This language is permissive; therefore, a district is not required to enroll such pupils. No tuition may be charged.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- C **October 26, 2004** is the date of the annual **MDE/MSBO Fall Workshop** at the Holiday Inn South in Lansing. Mark your calendar.
 - C Pursuant to Public Act 141 of 1999, unless it conflicts with a calendar agreed to as part of a current collective bargaining agreement that was in effect as of May 1, 1999, **school is not to be in session on Friday, September 3, the Friday before Labor Day.**
 - C **Wednesday, September 22** is the **pupil membership count day** for 2003-2004 and the second adult education participant count day of the year. (Joellen Wonsey, (517) 373-3352, WonseyJ@Michigan.gov)
 - C The **SE-4096 Special Education Cost Report** for the 2003-2004 school fiscal year is due on **September 30**. (Dianne Easterling, (517) 373-6488, EasterlingD@Michigan.gov)
 - C The October 20, 2004 state school aid payment is the first payment of the 2004-2005 fiscal year. There is no September school aid payment.
 - C Districts are required to report by **November 1** to the local health department the immunization status of all students entering kindergarten or a new school in grades 1-12. Also, districts are required to report by **November 1** to the local health department the **immunization status** of all pupils who enrolled in grade 6 in the district or ISD for the first time between January 1 and September 30, 2004. (Patty Lawless (517) 373-1122 LawlessP@Michigan.gov)
 - C **November 1** is the deadline for local districts (including PSAs) to file their **FY2004 financial and pupil accounting audit reports** with the ISDs, and **November 15** from the ISDs to the Department. Failure to file these reports will result in the withholding of state aid. (Kathy Weller, (517) 335-6858), WellerK@Michigan.gov)
 - C The **2003-2004 FID - Annual Comprehensive Financial Report** (see related item above) is due from local and intermediate districts to the CEPI by **November 15**. Failure to file these reports will result in the withholding of state aid. (Glenda Rader, (517) 335-0524, RaderG@Michigan.gov)
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*Do you have questions about the information appearing in this UPDATE? Call the consultants identified above or **Dan Hanrahan, Director, State Aid & School Finance, MDE**, phone: (517) 335-0521, fax: (517) 241-0196, e-mail: HanrahanD@Michigan.gov.